Amendment to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) A stream server apparatus connected to client apparatuses and a firewall apparatus for inhibiting a packet from illegally accessing a ~~particular~~ first network, said stream server apparatus distributing stream data to said client apparatuses and comprising:

a first interface which transmits and receives ~~a packet~~ packets to and from a relevant one of the client ~~apparatus~~ apparatuses via~~belonging to~~ the ~~particular~~ first network without ~~via~~ passing through the firewall apparatus, and transmits and receives ~~a packet~~ packets to and from another relevant one of the client ~~apparatus~~ apparatuses belonging to a second network, different from the first network, via the firewall apparatus and the~~a~~ second network ~~different from~~ and without passing through the ~~particular~~first ~~network via~~ network ~~the firewall apparatus~~;

a second interface which transmits and receives ~~a packet~~ packets to and from the another relevant one client apparatus belonging to ~~the~~ a third network, different from the ~~particular~~ first network, via the third network and without ~~via~~ passing through the firewall apparatus or the first network, said second interface being connected to a ~~second~~ wide area network;

a stream transport management module which specifies said first interface or said second interface in accordance with a network attribute and a type of a communication protocol of one of the relevant one client apparatus or the another relevant one client apparatus; and

a process module which executes a communication process based on the communication protocol relative to the relevant one client apparatus or the another relevant one client apparatus via the specified interface.

2. (currently amended) The stream server apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said process module executes a stream data distribution process based on a same communication protocol for both the relevant one of the client ~~apparatus~~ apparatuses belonging to the ~~particular~~ first network and the another relevant one of the client ~~apparatus~~ apparatuses belonging to the second network different from the ~~particular~~ first network.

3. (original) The stream server apparatus according to claim 2, wherein said communication protocol uses a user datagram protocol.

4. (currently amended) The stream server apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising a control request reception unit which notifies an ID of the interface specified by said stream transport management module to the client ~~apparatus~~apparatuses.

5. (currently amended) The stream server apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said stream transport management module specifies said first interface, if ~~the client~~a client apparatus of the client apparatuses belongs to the second network different from the ~~particular~~ first network for which the firewall apparatus inhibits illegal accesses and if the communication protocol includes a reception process of a packet on a side of the stream server apparatus.

6. (currently amended) The stream server apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said stream transport management module specifies said second interface, if ~~the client~~a client apparatus of the client apparatuses belongs to the second network different from the ~~particular~~ first network for which the firewall apparatus inhibits illegal accesses and if the communication protocol does not include a reception process of a packet on a side of the stream server apparatus.

7. (currently amended) The stream server apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said stream transport management module specifies said second interface, if ~~the client~~a client apparatus of the client apparatuses belongs to the second network different from the ~~particular~~ first network for which the firewall apparatus inhibits illegal accesses and if the communication protocol is a stream data distributing protocol.

8. (currently amended) The stream server apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said stream transport management module specifies said first interface, if ~~the client~~a client apparatus of the client apparatuses belongs to the same network as a network to which the stream server apparatus belongs.

9. (currently amended) The stream server apparatus according to claim 4, wherein said control request reception unit notifies the client ~~apparatus~~ apparatuses of the ID of the specified interface, said ID being not a local ID distinguishable by the ~~particular~~ first network for which the firewall apparatus inhibits illegal accesses but a

global ID capable of being translated into the local ID by a network relay apparatus en route to ~~the client~~a client apparatus requested stream data distribution.

10. (currently amended) The stream server apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said process module comprises:

a stream transport processing unit for executing stream data distribution to the client ~~apparatus~~ apparatuses based upon one stream data distribution protocol; and

a bandwidth management processing unit for executing bandwidth control communication based on a control program for controlling a bandwidth of the stream data distribution.

11. (currently amended) A network attached storage system for managing a file system and distributing stream data stored in a storage unit to client apparatuses via networks, said network attached storage system being connected to the client apparatuses and a firewall apparatus for preventing a packet from illegally accessing a ~~particular~~ first network and comprising:

a first interface for transmitting and receiving ~~a packet~~ packets to and from a relevant one of the client ~~apparatus~~ apparatuses via ~~belonging to the particular~~ the first network without involvement of the firewall apparatus and for transmitting and receiving ~~a packet~~ packets to and from another relevant one of the client ~~apparatus~~ apparatuses belonging to a second network, different from the ~~particular~~first ~~network via~~ network, via the firewall apparatus and the second network and without passing through the first network;

a second interface for transmitting and receiving ~~a packet~~ packets to and from the another relevant one client apparatus belonging to ~~the network~~ a third network

different from the ~~particular~~ first network without involvement of the firewall apparatus or the first network, said second interface being connected to a ~~second~~ wide area network; and

a process module for executing a communication process, via an interface identified in accordance with a network attribute and a type of a communication protocol of the client apparatus and based on the communication protocol, relative to the relevant one client apparatus.

12. (currently amended) ~~A program~~An apparatus comprising a storage medium with a program contained therein, the program executable ~~to be executed~~ by a stream server apparatus connected to client apparatuses and a firewall apparatus which prevents a packet from illegally accessing a ~~particular~~ first network, said stream server apparatus distributing stream data to the client apparatuses and comprising a first interface which transmits and receives ~~a packet~~ packets to and from a relevant one of the client ~~apparatus~~ apparatuses via~~belonging to~~ the ~~particular~~ first network without involvement of the firewall apparatus and transmits and receives ~~a packet~~ packets to and from another relevant one of the client ~~apparatus~~ apparatuses belonging to a second network, different from the first ~~network via~~ network, via the firewall apparatus and the second network without passing through the first network, and a second interface which transmits and receives ~~a packet~~ packets to and from the another relevant one client apparatus belonging to ~~the network~~ a third network, different from the ~~particular~~ first network, without involvement of the firewall apparatus or the first network, said second interface being connected to a ~~second~~ wide area network, ~~and~~ said program when executed causing the stream server apparatus to perform~~comprising~~:

a stream transport management step of identifying said first interface or said second interface in accordance with a network attribute and a type of a communication protocol of one of the relevant one client apparatus or the another relevant one client apparatus; and

a step of executing a communication process based on the communication protocol relative to one of the relevant one client apparatus or the another relevant one client apparatus via the identified interface.

13. (new) A stream server apparatus connected to a first client apparatus and a second client apparatus and a firewall apparatus for inhibiting a packet from illegally accessing a first local area network (LAN), said stream server apparatus distributing stream data to the first and the second client apparatuses, comprising:

a first interface which transmits and receives packets to and from the first client apparatus via the first LAN without passing through the firewall apparatus, and transmits and receives packets to and from the second client apparatus belonging to a second LAN, different from the first LAN, via the firewall apparatus and the second LAN without passing through the first LAN;

a second interface which transmits and receives packets to and from the second client apparatus belonging to a third LAN, different from the first LAN, without passing through the firewall apparatus or the first LAN, the first and second interfaces being connected to the Internet through a router;

a stream transport management module which specifies said first interface or said second interface in accordance with a network attribute and a type of a communication protocol of a requesting one of the first and second client apparatuses; and

a process module which executes a communication process based on the communication protocol relative to the requesting client apparatus via the specified interface,

wherein said process module executes a stream data distribution process based on a user datagram protocol (UDP) as the same communication protocol both for the first and second client apparatuses.